Delaware State Parks to hold more auctions of low-digit tags

DOVER — DNREC's Division of Parks & Recreation will feature two auctions for low-digit surf fishing tags in March and April.

The first auction will be online, beginning Tuesday, March 29, and closing on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. Tag numbers will include: 16, 29, 148, 321, 468 and 478, as well as three choice tags — which enable the winning bidder to select their favorite number from a series of available tags.

On Saturday, April 9, 15 tags will be auctioned from 1:30 — 3 p.m. during the Delaware State Fair's "Triple-Threat BBQ, Beer & Music Festival."

The live auction will be held in the Quillen Arena at the Delaware State Fairgrounds. Tag numbers in the auction will include: 4,7,10, 21, 60, 65, 69, 95, 125, 150, 200 and 400. Three choice tags will also be auctioned.

"Delawareans have an affinity for low-digit license plates," said Delaware State Parks Director Ray Bivens. "As we celebrate the 65th anniversary of Delaware State Parks this year, we are pleased to offer several more auction opportunities for the sale of low-numbered surf fishing tags. We are very pleased to partner with the Delaware State Fair and to have the auction during the Triple-Threat event."

The black and white tags have a unique, vintage look with raised letters. Bidding during both events will open at \$250. The winning bidder for each tag will receive a certificate of authenticity. Once purchased, owners will retain the tag as long as they have a valid surf fishing permit.

The First Low-Digit Surf Tag Auctions were held in the fall of 2015. Revenue from those auctions totaled \$273,093 from the sale of 65 tags. All revenue raised from the auctions directly benefits Delaware State Parks.

"We are overwhelmed with the response from our first two auctions," said Bivens. "We are grateful to State Representative Dave Wilson — who will once again volunteer his time to auction off a couple of the tags at the Delaware State Fair event on April 9."

Following the auctions in April, Delaware State Parks has scheduled the next live auction for Oct. 22 at Delaware Seashore State Park, as part of the second annual "Booo-B-Que" event, during which the coveted tag #1 will be sold. "We anticipate a lot of excitement around the sale of that tag" said Bivens.

For more information visit http://www.destateparks.com/lowdigittag/.

To register to bid on the low-digit surf tags, visit http://www.usgovbid.com/

For information on the Triple Threat BBQ, Music & Beer Festival, visit http://www.delawarestatefairgrounds.com/p/getconnected

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